Case 3477

Nesocyrtosoma Marcuzzi, 1976 (Insecta, Coleoptera, TENEBRIONIDAE): proposed establishment of availability and designation of *Cyrtosoma inflatum* Marcuzzi, 1976 as the type species.

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Abstract. The purpose of this application, under Articles 10.1, 13.3 and 81.1 of the Code, is to make available the genus-group name *Nesocyrtosoma* Marcuzzi, 1976 and subsequently designate *Cyrtosoma inflatum* Marcuzzi, 1976 as the type species. As this is the prevailing nomenclatural usage, this act will serve to promote stability in this West Indian genus of tenebrionid beetles.

Keywords. Nomenclature; taxonomy; Coleoptera; TENEBRIONIDAE; *Nesocyrtosoma*; *Hesiodobates*; *Cyrtosoma*; *Pachycyrtosoma*; *Serrania; inflatum;* darkling beetles; West Indies.

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1. The name *Nesocyrtosoma* was proposed as a new subgenus of *Cyrtosoma* Perty, 1830 by Marcuzzi (1976, p. 137). Marcuzzi (1976) described the subgenus briefly and included three new species in it: *Cyrtosoma* (*Nesocyrtosoma*) *inflatum* (p. 138), *C.* (*N.*) *tumefactum* (p. 138) and *C.* (*N.*) *gebieni* (p. 139). As recently reported by Hopp & Ivie (2009, p. 2), Marcuzzi (1976) did not designate a type species in his original publication and therefore his genus-group name is unavailable. *Nesocyrtosoma*

however has been used as a valid genus-group name (as either a genus or subgenus) and attributed to Marcuzzi (1976) subsequently in at least 18 publications (Marcuzzi, 1984, p. 102, 1991, p. 235, 1999, p. 81; Doyen, 1989, p. 280; Doyen & Poinar, 1994, p. 45; Garrido & Gutiérrez, 1996, p. 281; Perez-Gelabert, 1999, p. 31 [as *Nesocyrtoma*], 2008, p. 115; Poinar et al. 2001, p. 292; Arillo & Ortuño, 2005, p. 22; Ivie et al., 2008, p. 254; Vitali, 2008, p. 11; Hopp & Ivie, 2009, p.1; Garrido & Varela, 2010, p. 32; Matthews et al., 2010, p. 633; Hopp, 2011, p. 242; Garrido & de Armas, 2012, p. 70; Peck & Perez-Gelabert, 2012, p. 27). *Nesocyrtosoma* is restricted to the West Indies and currently includes 45 valid species-group names.

2. *Hesiodobates* Kaszab & Schawaller, 1984 (p. 2) was described as a monotypic genus for one new Dominican amber fossil species (*H. antiquus* Kaszab & Schawaller, 1984, p. 3) based on a single specimen. Although *Hesiodobates* has been included in lists of taxa described in Dominican amber (e.g. Poinar, 1992, p. 154; Poinar et al., 2001, p. 205) the genus was first synonymized with *Nesocyrtosoma* by Doyen & Poinar (1994, p. 45) and recently confirmed as a synonym of *Nesocyrtosoma* in the revision of Hopp & Ivie (2009, p. 13).

3. The name *Pachycyrtosoma* was proposed as a new subgenus of *Cyrtosoma* Perty, 1830 by Marcuzzi (1999, p.81) with *C.* (*P.*) *merkli* Marcuzzi, 1999 (p. 82) as its type species by original designation. This genus-group name was used subsequently in a checklist (Perez-Gelabert, 2008, p. 115) before Hopp & Ivie (2009, p. 13) synonymized *Pachycyrtosoma* with *Nesocyrtosoma*.

4. Garrido (2003, p. 49) proposed the new genus name *Serrania* for a single species *Diaperis viridula* Zayas, 1988 (p. 93), being its type species by monotypy. The name *Serrania* was subsequently used as valid in Peck (2005, p. 150) before Hopp & Ivie (2009, p. 13) synonymized it with *Nesocyrtosoma*.

5. Strict application of the Principle of Priority would mean the recognition of *Hesiodobates* Kaszab & Schawaller, 1984 as the valid name for this group of tenebrionid beetles. However, we do not believe that such action would promote stability in the future. The name *Nesocyrtosoma* has been treated [although incorrectly] as available and valid by all authors since it was first proposed by Marcuzzi (1976) while the available genus-group names *Hesiodobates*, *Pachycyrtosoma* and *Serrania* have seldom been used as valid after they were first proposed and have been recognized as junior synonyms of *Nesocyrtosoma* in the literature. We believe that the conservation of *Nesocyrtosoma*, as it has been used to this day, is necessary in order to promote stability of usage in the future. Following Recommendation 69A (and as documented by Hopp & Ivie, 2009, p. 2), we propose the originally included species *Cyrtosoma* (*Nesocyrtosoma*) *inflatum* Marcuzzi, 1976 as the type species of *Nesocyrtosoma* because it is common within its range in Cuba and its holotype is obtainable for study at the Natural History Museum, London, U.K.

6. The International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature is accordingly asked:

(1) to use its plenary power to rule that the name *Nesocyrtosoma* Marcuzzi, 1976 is not unavailable despite not being accompanied by a type species fixation in the original publication and designate *Cyrtosoma inflatum* Marcuzzi, 1976 as its type species;

(2) to place on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology the name *Nesocyrtosoma* Marcuzzi, 1976 (gender: neuter), type species *Cyrtosoma inflatum* Marcuzzi, 1976 as designated in (1) above;

(3) to place on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology the name *inflatum* Marcuzzi, 1976, as published in the binomen *Cyrtosoma inflatum* Marcuzzi, 1976 (specific name of the type species of *Nesocyrtosoma* Marcuzzi, 1976, as ruled in (1) above).

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Comments on this case are invited for publication (subject to editing) in the *Bulletin*; they should be sent to the I.C.Z.N., Natural History Museum, Cromwell Road, London SW7 5BD, U.K. (e-mail: iczn@nhm.ac.uk).